



# EDP US YOUTH SOCCER CONFERENCES SHOWCASE

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Dear Coach / Manager:

Welcome! We expect you are reading this because your team has been accepted to the **EDP US YOUTH SOCCER CONFERENCES SHOWCASE** being held on Saturday and Sunday August 8 & 9 for Boys & Girls teams. Please review the following information carefully, ALL OF IT IS IMPORTANT!

### A) APPLICATION

Please note that your application is not complete until payment has been received. We will accept teams after their online application has been accepted and their payment received.

Teams not accepted will be placed on a waiting list. If not ultimately accepted, any necessary refunds will be issued after the event concludes.

### B) LODGING

A requirement for acceptance for out-of-area teams is that your team utilizes sanctioned tournament lodging through Titan Lodging. Note that we reserve blocks of rooms at these facilities well in advance to ensure that our participating teams' needs are adequately met. If we do not utilize these reserved rooms, the hotels may not make these rooms available at future events, especially at times of the year when lodging demands in the area are greatest. Therefore, your cooperation here is expected.

If your room situation has still not been squared away, please contact the Titan Lodging Coordinator at [marina@titanlodging.com](mailto:marina@titanlodging.com) as soon as possible. You can also call 732-724-4300 and ask for Titan Lodging.

### C) CONTACTING COLLEGES

Now it is your job to make this showcase meaningful for your players. College coaches know that the Showcase will offer a wide variety of quality players appropriate for a variety of competitive programs. However, **Coaches will gravitate to watch those teams whose players have called, emailed or written them!** There are only a limited number of Top 25 NCAA Division One colleges in the area, but we email (multiple times!) a list of thousands of mens' and womens' programs in NCAA Division One, Two and Three, NAIA, NJCAA, etc. There are programs for virtually every skill level among dedicated

players! But Coaches in all these schools know that landing a player is much easier if a player is already disposed to consider the school. Coaches can only know who those players are if the players make their interest known to them!

**HAVE YOUR PLAYERS START CONTACTING COACHES IMMEDIATELY!** Even if they are only vaguely considering a school, contact the Coach, it costs little or nothing (by email), and one can never be sure where it may lead! Your players should follow up their initial contacts again when we release the schedules, to let coaches know what times and fields they will be on. Remember: The key point is **Contact, Contact, Contact!**

A number of pertinent articles are posted on the Showcase Homepage labeled HOW TO...MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SHOWCASE, accessed directly at [https://cdn3.sportngin.com/attachments/document/20de-1658693/INFO\\_showcase\\_articles.pdf](https://cdn3.sportngin.com/attachments/document/20de-1658693/INFO_showcase_articles.pdf)

#### **D) ENTERING PLAYER PROFILES ONLINE**

Typically, the Team Manager is responsible for setting up and maintaining the TEAM ACCOUNT in GotSoccer.com. Once the Team Account is set up, the team can apply to events such as this Showcase, and hyperlinks will allow tournaments to access team History and Roster information.

The Player Profiles created in the ROSTER function of a Team Account can be printed in various formats. The Showcase uses one of these formats to collate all the participating teams into a single COACHES BINDER provided evaluators upon Registration at a Showcase event. The Player Profiles are available to college coaches online in their full version on GotSoccer.com. A truncated version with key data for each player is printed that allows two pages for each team. See the CRITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS below to take full advantage of these Player Profiles.

**You should plan on completing this process by June 8th. As it usually takes a little while, especially if you are setting this up for the first time, you should get started as soon as possible.**

Team Managers generally enter very basic Player information into the Roster: Name, ID#, Uniform#, Birthdate, Email address. The system then allows Team Managers to automatically generate individual screen names and passwords for each player on the team so that the individual player then completes and updates their own profile: phone, address, grades, SAT scores, athletic honors, interest in courses of study and colleges, etc.

GotSoccer.com has an ever-improving INFO Section that explains these processes.

MAIN INFO MENU:

<https://gotsoccer.zendesk.com/hc/en-us>

CREATING USERNAMES & PASSWORDS FOR YOUR PLAYERS:

<https://gotsoccer.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115005605308-Creating-Username-Passwords-for-your-Players>

Even if you have entered Player Profiles for previous or other events, you should still have your players review their profiles. Information needs to be updated: SAT scores, school grades, change of address or email, soccer achievements, etc.

Remember, one advantage to this system is that you can log out and log back in and resume where you left off. You do not have to complete all players in one session.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** When we print the Player Profiles for the coaches' binder to be distributed onsite to coaches, each player's vital data will appear on a two-page per team summary: contact info, graduation date, GPA, SAT scores, etc. More extensive information will only be available to college coaches online.

**CRITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS to ensure player gets maximum benefit:**

**ONE - PLAYER TEXT INFORMATION.** The ONLY information entered online which will allow **narrative text** to be printed in the Coaches Binder is the entry for "**Provide Details of Sporting Achievements**" or "**-Details**". Players should not list team achievements here, but rather their own most important player info: ODP, high school honors, all-star teams, acceptance to significant training programs, etc. Use this space to get across the most important info being brought to coaches' attention. About four lines will print up, so edit remarks succinctly and wisely.

**TWO - PLAYER PHOTOS.** A small thumbnail of any player photo submitted appears next to the player info in the Coaches Binder. It is best not to waste this on a full body shot, use the opportunity for a head shot. Otherwise you will just have a tiny, indistinguishable stick figure show up in the profiles.

**THREE - UPDATES.** Players should review and update their personal information before every event. GPAs, SAT scores, contact information, Sports Honors can change quickly!

Please **COMPLETE** the roster / profile information **by June 8th**. This will allow us time to review submissions, ensure that they will print up correctly, then publish, collate, bind and transport the binders to the fields.

If you receive an email that your Player Profiles are not showing on your Roster, **DO NOT IGNORE THE EMAIL**, even if you think you have fulfilled the requirement. Your team possibly started a NEW Team Account (with a different username and a different password) when you applied to the Showcase, rather than re-using the account that had the profiles already in it. In short, you probably have multiple Team Accounts, with multiple passwords. I need to have the team account with the profiles in it applying to this Showcase. The solution is invariably the same: Go to the account where the profiles are entered, and apply to the Showcase again from that account. When we see the requisite info in the new application, we will transfer your financial info to the correct account, then delete the application without the profiles.

Remember: Evaluators are annoyed if they try to observe a team for which no data is available. The Showcase is geared to catering to Coaches' needs! We try to ensure that any coach assessing players has access to a reasonable amount of available information about the players they are scouting.

**E) PLAYERS SEEKING TEAMS TO GUEST WITH**

A number of players are seeking to participate in the Showcase that do not have teams they can join. They are listed on GotSoccer.com, and information on accessing that info is found at:  
[https://cdn1.sportngin.com/attachments/document/5f6f-1658690/Guest\\_Player\\_Listings.pdf](https://cdn1.sportngin.com/attachments/document/5f6f-1658690/Guest_Player_Listings.pdf)

If you are short players, please consider hosting a deserving player. Or do so regardless. Many of these guests are very motivated to be seen by colleges, and will contact many schools once they know they will be playing. In recent years, we have had guest players seeking to play from Texas, Minnesota, Ontario, Indiana, Kentucky, Georgia, Illinois, Hawaii, California and even ODP Europe (Armed Forces), that have generated substantial interest from colleges! The more coaches are drawn to watch them, the better for all the players on your squad.

**F) RULES & REGULATIONS**

Rules of Play and conduct are accessed from the Showcase Homepage.

Your team is responsible for being familiar with the contents. So it's a must read!

Major items: No smoking, no alcohol, no pets, no abusive behavior. Obey traffic directives. Please pick up your trash. Simple.

Note that halftime will be a short stoppage to exchange halves and grab a drink, to keep fields in play as much as possible for the coaches in attendance. Also bear in mind that, at a showcase, players need to show the discipline they have learned from their developmental programs. Lengthy coaching instructions should be unnecessary at this point. Evaluators are there to observe the players play, not the coaches coach. And for all these reasons, refs will have a very short leash on dissent from the sideline bench, which only detracts from the players on the field.

Note the Substitution Rules intended to let players easily get on the field for their scheduled minutes, and to avoid unnecessarily lost time due to coaches' and players' indecision. Section 4 of the Rules of Play provides for Substitutions as follows:

- a. Substitutions are allowed, with the referee's permission, at every stoppage in play (for example, throw-ins, goal kicks, corner kicks, after goals, upon stoppages for fouls, etc.).
- b. Substitutions are limited to seven per half. A substituted player may not re-enter the game in the half that the player was substituted.
- c. Players must be clearly standing and waiting AT THE MID-FIELD LINE to be substituted (and not merely waiting "in the vicinity of mid-field"), and the referee's assistant should be alerted, to the extent possible, of the request to substitute at the next stoppage of play.
- d. Players standing at midfield should be substituted into the game at the next stoppage of play, unless they remove themselves from the mid-field position prior to the stoppage of play.

#### **G) TEAM REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN**

Teams are required to CHECK-IN at the venue HQ at least 45-60 minutes before their first game. Any last-minute adjustments can be handled at this time.

All teams must have:

A copy of the team roster they can leave with HQ officials. Pencil in any Guest players being used.

Current, valid Player Passes for all participating players, rostered and guest. Player Passes for domestic players must be from a state association or affiliate of US Youth Soccer.

Authorizations for Medical Treatment, more commonly referred to as Medical Releases, for all participating players. The ones executed when the player was first registered with the team for the season are usually adequate. Remember, these documents are critical to ensure that a player can be admitted to an ambulance, clinic or hospital for treatment, especially in the absence of a parent or legal guardian in attendance. These documents have to show original signatures. (And preferably be notarized, as we have heard of clinics that questioned how they could confirm the signature was actually a parent's or legal guardian's.)

Permissions To Travel for those out-of-state teams using USYS passes from state associations that require a Permission To Travel.

Remember: All domestic players on your team must have player passes from a US Youth Soccer affiliated member organization.

## **H) SCHEDULE OF GAMES**

The schedule of games for the **Showcase** will be accessed from the EDP website.

All Girls schedules are accessible from the Showcase Schedule Homepage located at <http://events.gotsport.com/events/Default.aspx?eventid=76718>

All Boys schedules are accessible from the Showcase Schedule Homepage located at <http://events.gotsport.com/events/Default.aspx?eventid=76720>

Please check and re-confirm the dates, times and fields of your games as soon as possible after they are posted. In the last ten days before the event, teams will be notified by email if they are involved in a material change. Team Contacts (as provided on your application) are responsible for checking their emails on a regular basis, especially the last week before the event, to ensure that no last minute communications are ignored.

## **J) REFRESH YOUR WEB BROWSER / CONTACT MOBILE PHONE# / MESSAGING**

Whenever checking your online information, click REFRESH on your WEB BROWSER. This ensures you are seeing the actual information available online, and not a previously-memorized page being stored in your computer cache. (Failure to do so is the most common reason teams discover they have incorrect information.)

Please check your team account on [www.GotSport.com](http://www.GotSport.com) and make sure there is a valid mobile phone number listed for the TEAM CONTACT PERSON INFORMATION. This will be the first number called if there is a scheduling or weather problem at the fields.

Also, make sure you avoid using corporate or government email addresses for your team contacts entered in [www.GotSport.com](http://www.GotSport.com). These networked computer systems tend to have strong firewalls and spam filters that invariably prevent group messaging functions such as we rely upon from operating. Please provide email addresses from residential accounts (AOL, Yahoo, Gmail, Hotmail, Comcast, Verizon, Optonline, etc.)

Finally, do NOT list the same person for coach, manager and team contact. If there is a problem in communicating with that individual, it is useful to have alternatives. That is the whole point for the system allowing multiple contact listings.

## **K) TRAVEL DIRECTIONS**

Directions and Field Layouts to all venues being used can be accessed from the Showcase Homepage.

## **L) WEATHER-RELATED ALERTS**

We avoid cancelling games due to adverse weather if at all possible, and choose venues that have a high resistance to adverse conditions. So do not assume games are being cancelled without firm confirmation. Also, do NOT assume that the weather conditions outside your window are the same at the gamesite fields; experience has shown that weather patterns in our area can be highly localized.

In the event of lightning, we will cease play immediately. We may also suspend play in the event of a substantial downpour. Games in the second half will likely be declared as completed. Please have your team get to shelter, and have a system for contacting each team member. Fifteen minutes after a stoppage, send ONE team representative to HQ, where we will inform all affected teams of the current status of play, and when we expect to resume. Do NOT assume comments by referees or other personnel are authoritative; only the notice provided at HQ is authoritative.

The first place for off-site information is the [Tournament Schedule Homepage](#), where weather updates will appear as warranted. This is the GotSoccer page you are directed to when you click on the SCHEDULES BY AGE BRACKETS button on the Showcase Homepage. (This is the fastest webpage for us to update quickly.)

We will also send alerts that weather info has been updated through Twitter: @EDP\_soccer

In the event of precipitation or wet fields, there will be NO WARM-UPS within the four corners of the field, including Keeper warm-ups. The fields will be used strictly for game play.

Finally, if games are halted for lightning activity, then so are warm-ups on the field. Some past teams have exhibited a bizarre notion that lightning can strike during a game, but won't hit teams merely warming up on the same field before the "all clear" signal is given.

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Some simple rules for each facility we use:

- Park only in designated spots. Do not park just anywhere. You may get ticketed! Or towed!
- No pets, on a leash or otherwise. Service animals must be clearly marked.
- No smoking or alcoholic beverages anywhere near the fields.
- Please pick up your trash. The pitch is sacred ground, and shouldn't be buried in discarded water bottles and wrapping tape.
- Any tents or canopies must be properly anchored.
- No BBQs or other open flames.
- Cooperate with tournament officials and field marshals.

Anyone caught abusing the above items will be evicted from the premises, and it may lead to early termination of an offending team's participation. Sorry to sound restrictive, but there is no reason to feel constrained if everyone uses common sense.

Teams participating in this event acknowledge that all players, coaches, managers, parents and affiliated parties have been advised of the contents of the following items, and will abide by the directives and provisions contained therein:

- INFO LETTER TO ACCEPTED TEAMS (this document)
- EDP TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS (Accessed from the event Homepage)
- EDP TOURNAMENT PAYMENT & CREDITS Policies ([www.edpsoccer.com/payments-and-credits](http://www.edpsoccer.com/payments-and-credits))
- EDP PHOTO/VIDEO/AUDIO POLICY ([www.edpsoccer.com/photovideopolicy](http://www.edpsoccer.com/photovideopolicy))
- EVENT DETAILS / APPLICATION INFORMATION (Accessed from the EVENT DETAILS & LINKS tab on the Event Homepage)
- Any emergent matters posted on the EVENT SCHEDULE Homepage or emailed to Team Contacts

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Thanks for your cooperation. We are looking forward to an exciting Showcase tournament.

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